

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12 EB-08 DOE-15 SOE-02
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 OMB-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 A-01 OPR-02 OC-06 CCO-00 SY-05
USSS-00 CPR-02 /117 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0193
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
*AMEMBASSY MOSGMW PRIORITY 6274
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 12816
GENEVA FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY
E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PGOV, BQG, OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)
SUBJECT: SOVIET DIPLOMAT ON ABRASIMOV INTERVIEW, BUNDESRAT PRESIDENCY,
AND PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT TO BERLIN

REFS: (A) USBER 1557(NOTAL) (C) STATE 172467(NOTAL)
(B) BONN 12799

1. AT THE JULY 12 BONN GROUP MEETING, THE FRG REP

(VON RICHTHOFEN) REPORTED ON A RECENT DISCUSSION
BETWEEN ZAGATELYAN (PHONETIC), RESPONSIBLE FOR WEST
BERTN IN THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN EAST BERLIN, AND
KLAUS DUISBERG, OFFICIAL OF THE FRG PEYREP
TO THE GDR. ZAGATELYAN TOLD DUISBERG THAT ABRASIMOV'S
REMARKS IN HIS INTERVIEW WITH FRG TV (REF A) DID NOT
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SIGNIFY A TOUGHENING OF THE SOVIET POSITION. THE
VIEWS ABRASIMOV HAD EXPRESSED WERE NOT NEW IN ANY
POINT OF SUBSTANCE; THEY ONLY REFLECTED WELL-KNOWN
SOVIET POSITIONS.

2. DUISBERG COMMENTED THAT ABRASIMOV'S TONE, HOWEVER,
HAD BN HARSH. ZAGATELYAN RESPONDED THAT THAT WAS

ABRASIMOV'S PERSONAL APPROACH. ZAGATELYAN STRESSED AGAIN THAT THE SOVIET LINE REMAINED UNCHANGED.

3. ON MAYOR STOBBE'S ASSUMPTION OF THE BUNDESRAT PRESIDENCY, ZAGATELYAN SAID THAT NATURALLY THE USSR WOULD HAVE TO REACT. A GREAT DEAL, HOWEVER, WOULD DEPEND ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES AT THE TIME STOBBE TOOK

UP HIS NEW OFFICE.

4. ZAGATELYAN SAID THAT THE SOVIET DEMARCHE AGAINST THE ACCOMPANIMENT OF QUEEN ELIZABETH BY FRG OFFICIALS DURING HER RECENT VISIT TO BERLIN HAD BEEN RATHER LOW-KEY. IT WAS NOT PLANNED TO SAY ANYTHING MORE IN CONNECTION WITH THE CARTER VISIT THAN HAD BEEN SAID AEMUT THE FRG ACCOMPANIMENT OF THE QUEEN (REFS B AND C), BUT THE REACTION DEPENDED ON HOW THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO BERLIN WAS CARRIED OUT AND ON WHAT HE SAID. ZAGATELSN COMMENTED THAT IT WOULD SEEM TO BE IN THE FRG'S INTEREST IF PRESIDENT CARTER EXERCISED "RESTRAINT".

5. VON RICHTHOFEN COMMENTED TO THE BONN GROUP THAT THE USSR MAY HAVE USED THIS CHANNEL TO PLAY DOWN ABRASIMOV'S INTERVIEW. HE ADDED THAT THE SOVIETS MIGHT HAVE BEEN SURPRISED AT THE DEGREE OF CONCERN

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WHICH HAD BEEN EXPRESSED IN THE WESTERN PRESS AS A RESULT OF ABRASIMOV'S REMARKS. STOESSEL

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